

Let's Talk About Water

DELFT 2018

FILM AND
WATER FESTIVAL

☺ FUN 🎬 FILMS 🎓 MASTER CLASS 💬 LECTURES

MON 5 FEB - SAT 17 FEB 2018



Let's Talk About Water

Landforms & Landscapes

Welcome to the sixth edition of **LET'S TALK ABOUT WATER**, the water and film festival in Delft. We use the power of cinema to inform and to spark debate on a wide variety of topics that are connected through water. This year's theme is **LANDFORMS & LANDSCAPES**. The films take us on many journeys around the world, influenced by **GEOPHYSICAL CHANGES** that appear in the news on a regular basis.

In **SYRIA**, at the most extreme, war and conflict change landscapes. It has been suggested but not verified that drought may have been the driver. But whatever the reason, masses of refugees started traversing borders, seas and continents in a heartbreaking search for a better life. We will take a look at some of their stories.

On the other side of the globe, in the **HIGH ANDES** where glaciers and snow are disappearing, bare rockface replaces ski slopes and drinking water now is unavailable. All around us landforms and landscapes are changing. And yet, within the **CLIMATE MODELS**, water is hardly ever addressed.

As we make our way to **KENYA**, a tree planting

activist is suffering from the unprecedented and unpredictable nature of weather as well. With the hope that the planting of trees would encourage retention of soil and moisture, sudden flooding after years of drought wiped out his efforts.

These things are all interconnected by water. By changing landscapes on a big scale, we influence circulation patterns and by disrupting the **GLOBAL WATER CYCLE** we are affecting people everywhere.

As we journey across **INDIA** from the source to the mouth of **THE GANGES** we encounter issues of **WATER QUALITY**. Industry and agriculture pollute the Ganges, even though it is a sacred and revered river.

After quantity and quality we look at another major water issue, **POWER AND POWER SHARING**, which leads to the world of transboundary conflicts. How to resolve them? What better example than the **NILE BASIN**, home to the narratives and myths that infuse many cultures? It takes us across eleven countries that share the Nile.

Another adventure will take us to the **TAURUS MOUNTAINS**, where nomadic tribes traditionally migrate on a seasonal basis following **VIRTUAL WATER** for their animals, the water in plants, a measure that's often overlooked in **WATER MODELS**.

The world is an interlocking set of **WATERSHEDS** that connect all these stories. - **LET'S TALK ABOUT WATER!**

On Friday 9 February, Nile specialist Prof. Terje Tvedt will be our guest to present the third part of **THE NILE QUEST**, his acclaimed trilogy on this river basin. Saturday 10 February the Nile is also center stage in a thematic evening with films and presentations in the Falie Begijnhof Theater, including the first two parts of **THE NILE QUEST**. On Monday 12 February, one of the oldest documentaries, **GRASS, A NATION'S BATTLE FOR LIFE** (1925) shows the annual migration of a nomadic tribe in Iran. In **WATERMARK** the mesmerizing camera of photographer Edward Burtynsky spectac-

ularly captures how water shapes our world (Tuesday 13 February). **HOLY (UN)HOLY RIVER** on Wednesday 14 February, relates how the Ganges, an iconic part of Indian culture, lives and (sometimes almost) dies. Climate change provides for a personal story in beautiful **SAMUEL IN THE CLOUDS** (Thursday 15 February) about a snowless ski lift in the High Andes. And on Friday 16 February, an active Kenyan farmer takes charge of the camera in **THANK YOU FOR THE RAIN** and exposes the Western approach to climate. We end the program on Saturday afternoon, 17 February, with **HUMAN FLOW**, a portrait of global migration by Chinese artist Ai Weiwei. And to give us a ray of hope, we will start that screening with a short film produced by **UNRWA** (the UN organization for the Palestinian camps), about their infrastructure improvement program (FICIP) to enhance the lives of refugees in the varied camps of Lebanon.

Looking forward to seeing you!



All films are English spoken or subtitled, unless otherwise indicated (Dutch subtitled). The language of discussions is English. The entrance fee is €5, students €3, sometimes free.



MON 5 – FRI 9 FEB



MASTER CLASS

hosted by:
TU Delft/ Faculty of
Architecture
and TU Library

Between Water and Land: a look at thresholds

During the master-class, graduate students of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urbanism at TU Delft are working on the theme of **THRESHOLDS**. They all work with water in their thesis project. As A. Mathur and prof. D. da Cunha (both professors at University of Pennsylvania) state: *“... flood is only the condition if the water crosses the line which was drawn, if there is no line there are no floods.”* This intensive program is structured into two parts: a series of selected lectures on narration and media strategies in project communication and a **WORKSHOP** where students will learn how to script and build a storyline to convey the essence of their project. As a final product, each student is expected to develop a **MICRO-MOVIE** to deepen the investigation on the theme.

Visiting experts include Tamar Shafrir (writer and researcher in the extended field of design at Het Nieuwe Instituut, NL), Martina Margini and Renzo Sgolacchia (independent curators and researchers at Cinema Architecture) and Gianpaolo Arena (photographer, editor Magazine ‘Landscape Stories’ and Urbanautica).



MON 5 FEB 10h00-12h30



TUE 6 FEB 10h00-12h30

lectures



Filmhuis Lumen – More info: next page



TUE 6 FEB 16h00

Itinerant Movies



TU Delft Library: ‘The Orange Room’



FRI 9 FEB 15h00-17h00

student presentations + expert review



Inge Bobbink, TU Delft Assoc. Prof.
Landscape Architecture/Flowscape Lab



Taneha Bacchin, TU Delft Asst. Prof.
Urban Design/Delta Urbanism Studio



Lorenzo Mattozzi, Architect & Writer
MVRDV Senior Project Leader



Hamed Khosravi, TU Delft Lecturer,
Architect & Writer, Urban Design/Delta
Interventions Studio



Linda Lilienfeld, founder of Let’s Talk
About Water



TU-Delft/Architecture: LA-Studio
Julianalaan 134 Delft



TUESDAY 6 FEB 16h00



FILM



MASTER CLASS

Spiral Jetty
by Robert Smithson
USA, 1970, 36 min

Itinerant Movies

Robert Smithson

Documentaries about the groundbreaking film record of the building of the **SPIRAL JETTY** by Robert Smithson. The films are introduced by Martina Margini and Renzo Sgolacchia from Cinema Architecture.



Martina Margini and Renzo Sgolacchia
Cinema Architecture



admission
free



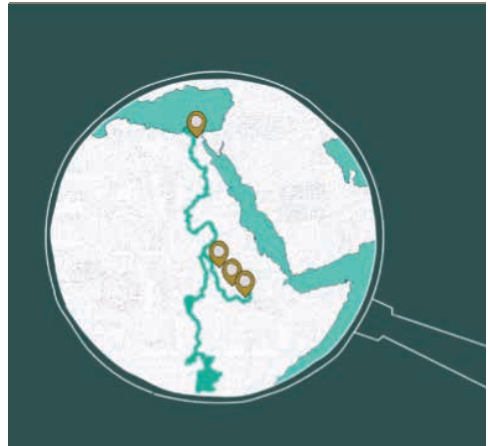
Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft

Open Water Diplomacy Lab

Media, science and water cooperation in the Nile Basin

How do ideology, knowledge and popular culture shape narratives on transboundary water issues? What is the impact on international negotiations?

OPEN WATER DIPLOMACY LAB explores how techno-scientific controversies on the Nile are debated in mainstream media and social networks in **EGYPT**, **SUDAN** and **ETHIOPIA**. The project aims at offering a space where water scientists, water journalists and water diplomats from different Nile countries can engage in a process of common learning, co-production and dissemination of knowledge, to contribute to the emergence of **SHARED NARRATIVES** about the Nile. The project is implemented by IHE Delft with the Nile Basin Capacity Building Network, African Water Journalists, SciDev.net and University of WITS (Johannesburg), and it is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Global Partnership for Water and Development.



funded by



For update about the project follow the monthly podcast "The sources of the Nile"

<https://nilewaterlab.org/podcast-the-sources-of-the-nile/>





FRIDAY 9 FEB 12h30–13h30



LECTURE

19h30



FILM

Prof. Terje Tvedt
Norway, 2014
50 min

The Nile Quest trilogy

War or Peace (part 3)

Water and Nile expert Professor **TERJE TVEDT** takes us on a voyage through 5000 years of history up this mythical and politically intriguing river, from the Mediterranean to the sources of **THE NILE** in the heart of Africa. We travel through deserts, swamps and rainforests, on the way visiting the offices of presidents and prime ministers and talking to people living on the banks of the river. Modern history fundamentally changed the relationship between the populations in the

Nile countries and the river with enormous far-reaching consequences. After being controlled by many powers, the longest river in the world now binds **ELEVEN NATIONS** even closer together in a common destiny they cannot escape, where they must apportion the water of the river they share. Terje Tvedt will be our guest speaker at the screening of Part 3 **WAR OR PEACE**. Earlier on the day he will give a lecture at IHE Delft, called: **THE NILE: A RIVER OF HISTORY**



Terje Tvedt, University Bergen Norway,
Prof. Geography and Global History



IHE Delft Room A1b
Westvest 7 Delft



admission €5
students/staff €3



Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft



SATURDAY 10 FEB 15h00–22h00



FILMS



FUN

hosted by:
**The Open Water
Diplomacy Lab**

'A Saturday on the Nile'

**An informal session with film, food and music,
including part 1 and 2 of The Nile Quest trilogy**

An old sage says “*Whoever drinks from the Nile will always return to it*”. If you are thirsty for the Nile join us on Saturday in the cosy **FALIE BEGIJNHOF THEATER** for a binge of Nile videos and movies and discover how this river has been portrayed by researchers, journalists and filmmakers.

We will begin with the documentary **THE NILE QUEST** by historian Terje Tvedt, watching Part 1 **THE RIVER OF HISTORY** and Part 2 **REVOLT AT THE SOURCES**. We will continue with three videos by journalists Safaa Salah (**EGYPT**), Ishraga abd Arrhman (**SUDAN**) and Dagim Terefe (**ETHIOPIA**) portraying how the media in their respective countries talk about the Nile. The videos have been commissioned by the **OPEN WATER DIPLOMACY LAB**.

You will also discover why the Colorado River is called the **AMERICAN NILE**, and to quench your thirst after great food and music we will conclude with a Hollywood gaze on the explorer who went searching for the sources of the Nile.

During the event, a special award will be also given to the best video on water governance made by the students of the IHE MSc program in **WATER MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE**.



Emanuele Fantini, Senior Researcher, Department of Integrated Water Systems and Governance, IHE Delft. Coordinator Open Water Diplomacy Lab



**admission
free**



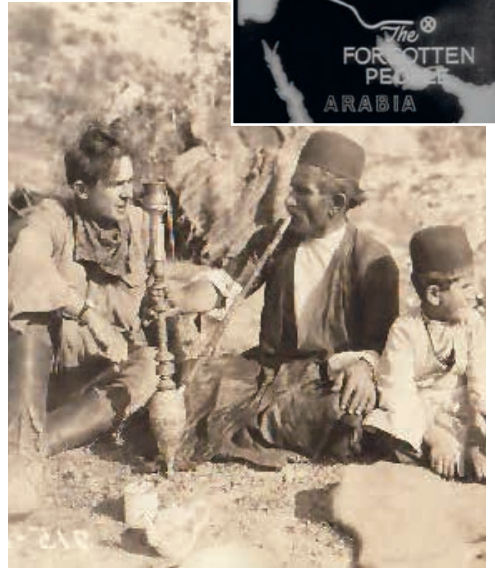
**Falie Begijnhof Theater
Rietveld 49 Delft**

MONDAY 12 FEB 19h30  **FILM**

Grass, a Nation's Battle for Life

Merian C. Cooper
Ernest B. Schoedsack
USA, 1925, 71min

In 1925 a **BAKHTIYARI** tribe of South Western Persia journeys from their winter to summer quarters in search of fresh pastures for their flocks. Moving 50,000 people and ten times as many animals in a gruelling 48 day long trek - **MAN PITTED AGAINST NATURE** - they snake across inhospitable mountains and snowy wastelands and cross churning rivers using rafts made out of inflated goat skins. With their black and white documentary with extraordinary, epic shots, the makers of the first **KING KONG** (1933) made a tribute to these people and their way of adapting to **WATER SCARCITY**. The footage from this exotic, difficult and dangerous endeavour was edited into a linear story of mythic proportions, what they called 'a natural drama'. This pioneering **ETHNOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTARY** (the only earlier one being Robert Flaherty's **NANOOK OF THE NORTH**, 1922) is a real-life adventure travelogue showing the kind of derring-do unknown to the tame concept of today's 'documentary'.



In the quest for improved water science communication, can we look to films that are considered visual anthropology to inspire narratives today about hydrology and its effects on present day life?



Shakeel Hayat, IHE Delft
PhD fellow Law and Policy in Water
Resources and Environment



admission €5
students/staff €3



Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft

MONDAY 5 FEB – SATURDAY 10 FEB

 **MON**
5 FEB

 **MASTER CLASS**
 10h00 – 12h30
lectures
 Architecture **p. 4**

 **TUE**
6 FEB

 **MASTER CLASS**
 10h00 – 12h30
Lectures
 Architecture **p. 4**

 **16h00**  **FILM**
Itinerant Movies
Robert Smithson
 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 5**

 **WED**
7 FEB

 **THU**
8 FEB





 **FRI**
9 FEB

 **LECTURE**
 12h30 – 13h30
Lecture Terje Tvedt
 IHE Delft **p. 6, 7**

 **MASTER CLASS**
 15h00 – 17h00
presentations
 TU Library/Orange Room **p. 4**

 **19h30**  **FILM**
The Nile Quest Part 3
War or Peace
 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 6, 7**



 **SAT**
10 FEB

 **FILM**  **FUN**  15h00 – 22h00
'A Saturday on the Nile'
 An informal session with film, music, food,
 cinema + The Nile Quest part 1 and 2
 Falie
 Begijnhof
 Theater
p. 6, 7, 8

Let's Talk About Wat

MONDAY 12 FEB – SATURDAY 17 FEB


 **MON**
12 FEB

 **19h30**  **FILM**
**Grass, a Nation's
Battle for Life**
📍 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 9**

 **MON**
12 FEB

 **TUE**
13 FEB

 **21h30**  **FILM**
Watermark
📍 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 12**



 **TUE**
13 FEB


 **WED**
14 FEB

 **19h30**  **FILM**
Holy (un)Holy River
📍 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 13**



 **WED**
14 FEB

 **THU**
15 FEB

 **19h30**  **FILM**
Samuel in the Clouds
📍 Falie Begijnhof Theater **p. 14**



 **THU**
15 FEB

 **FRI**
16 FEB

 **19h15**  **FILM**
**Thank You
for the Rain**
📍 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 15**

 **FRI**
16 FEB

 **SAT**
17 FEB

 **12h00**  **FILM**
Human Flow
+ UNRWA-short
📍 Filmhuis Lumen **p. 16, 17**

 **SAT**
17 FEB

 **TUESDAY 13 FEB 21h30**  **FILM**

Watermark

Jennifer Baichwal
Edward Burtynsky
Canada, 2013, 92min

SUBTITLED IN DUTCH

After their stunning and award winning documentary **MANUFACTURED LANDSCAPES** (2006) filmmaker Jennifer Baichwal and renowned photographer **EDWARD BURTYNSKY** joined forces again on this film about water. Their five-year undertaking provides insight into how we relate to it; how water shaped the world and how mankind put water to use. We approach fountains, step wells and hydroelectric dams from a helicopter overview that at times is purely thrilling. Shot in stunning 5K ultra high-definition video we look at water as a **TERRA-FORMING** element, as well as the magnitude of our need for and consumption of it. **WATERMARK** is not an eco-alarmist call to action, but rather a survey of where things stand with the world. If water, as dystopian sci-fi likes to predict, is one fault line along which society may rupture, then the cracks are already in evidence. Burtynsky immerses us in a **MAGNIFICENT FORCE OF NATURE** that we often take for granted. Until it's gone.



**What is remote sensing?
Can it show us change of land and water over
time?**



Gennadii Donchyts, Deltares, expert in
software engineering and integrated
environmental modeling



admission €5
students/staff €3



Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft



WEDNESDAY 14 FEB 19h30



FILM

Peter McBride
Jake Norton,
USA/India, 2016
60min

Holy (un)Holy River

Sacrilege of a sacred river

The **GANGES** is one of the great rivers of the world, and probably the most revered and reviled one, iconic and threatened. Its **WATERSHED** is at once the lifeblood of 500 million people, the spiritual inspiration for a billion Hindus, and one of the most troubled rivers in the world. To document its intense beauty and struggles **HOLY (UN)HOLY RIVER** follows the great Ganges 1,600 miles from its headwaters below the (already contaminated) Gangotri Glacier in the high Himalayan Mountains to the fetid, dead trickle in the north Indian heartland to its complex meeting with the sea at the Bay of Bengal. Global warming, dams, agriculture, overpopulation, mass manufacturing and different cultural traditions and practices all contribute to the **POLLUTION** of this sacred river. Worshipped too much, and at the same time treated so profanely that its existence as a river is in question.



How can we address the fact that upstream behavior affects downstream quality of life?
Will the seventeen SDGs (see page 19) give us a framework for action?



Eddy Moors, Rector IHE Delft,
Professor of Water and Climate



admission €5
students/staff €3



Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft



THURSDAY 15 FEB 19h30



FILM

Pieter van Eecke
Belgium/
Netherlands/
Bolivia, 2016
70 min

Samuel in the Clouds

preceded by: *The Last Ice Merchant**

SUBTITLED IN DUTCH

*Sandy Patch
Ecuador, 2012
14min

Belgian documentary filmmaker and environmental activist Pieter van Eecke spent months with the Aymaya-Indians on the 5400m high mountain, where the Bolivians perform ritual dances to ask the mountain spirits for snow. But to global warming and melting glaciers even the spirits have no simple answers. The world of **SAMUEL**, an old ski lift operator, disappears like snow in the sun. His mountain, the Chacaltaya, can be seen a 'symbol glacier' because it was the first one that started melting caused by a combination of **CLIMATE CHANGE** and **POLLUTION**. As we speak all glaciers in **THE ANDES** are melting. The short-term outlook is dramatic, the drinking water supply of millions of people on the altiplano is jeopardized because the glacier no longer fills Lake Titicaca. **SAMUEL IN THE CLOUDS** is moving portrait of a man living with climate change at his doorstep.



What is the role and responsibility of local, regional and state governments in attending to climate calamities? Can the geographical unit of a 'watershed' help us?



to be determined



Falke Begijnhof Theater
Rietveld 49 Delft



admission
free



FRIDAY 16 FEB 19h15



FILM

Julia Dahr
Norway/UK, 2017
90 min

Thank You for the Rain

This is a **STORY OF HOPE** from the frontline of climate change, that really takes off the moment Norwegian director Julia Dahr decides to give her camera to Kisilu Musya. For five years this **KENYAN FARMER** will be documenting the damaging effects of weather on his family's life and livelihood. Convinced that planting trees is the answer to counteracting **GLOBAL WARMING** in his community, he successfully organizes local farmer groups, before extreme rains and flooding ruins all. Adament as he is, he accepts an invitation to the UN **CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE** in Paris. This emotional film is driven by Kisilu's point of view, a natural leader who expects politicians to be doing as much as he is: to care and be interested in hearing from those directly affected by the environmental transformations taking place on this planet we all share.



The pace of climate change seems to be accelerating, but outcomes from climate change meetings are not keeping pace. Where's the nexus between policy and people?



Michael McClain, Professor of
Ecohydrology, IHE Delft



admission €5
students/staff €3

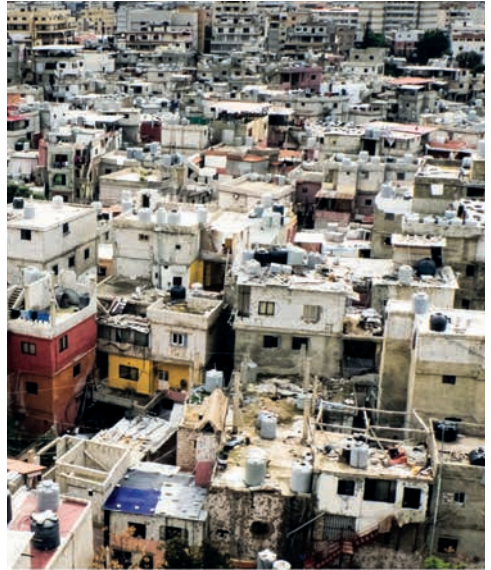


Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft

Environmental Health in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon (UNRWA)

The Lebanese branch of [UNRWA](#), the UN organization for the [PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS](#), has developed a vast infrastructure improvement program which will take place over the next six years: ‘The Field Infrastructure Camp Improvement Program’ ([FICIP](#)). It will weave together specialists, technicians, donors, ngo’s, camp directors and members of the camp communities, to focus on the four pillars of the program: Land and Habitat, Water and Sanitation, Energy and Air, and Camp Improvement and Restoration.

Professors from IHE Delft contributed to a capacity building program in Beirut in October of 2017 as part of FICIP. As part of an awareness campaign for this initiative, UNRWA created an 18 minute long [documentary](#), that will precede the screening of [HUMAN FLOW](#) on Saturday 17 February.



Does this film work as a tool for UNRWA's awareness campaign? What ideas might you contribute to camp improvement?

 **SATURDAY 17 FEB 12h00**  **FILM**

Human Flow

preceded by a short documentary on
Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon

Ai Weiwei
Germany, 2017
140 min

SUBTITLED IN DUTCH

Ai Weiwei, the maker of **HUMAN FLOW**, is perhaps the most famous artist and refugee on earth. His camera teams followed people in 23 countries who left their country in search of a better future. His film is an interrogation of the world's response to its unprecedented **MIGRANT CRISIS**. Gorgeous shots, many filmed from drones, create a visual tone poem, epic and highly human. We see a dispiriting network of walls and fences and realize that those who have the misfortune to be on the wrong side have little status or recourse. **ANTÓNIO GUTERRES**, Secretary-General of the United Nations, has recently called for a collective shift to celebrate the international benefits of migration as part of an ambitious plan to create a more human global strategy on this issue. *"The best way to end the stigma of illegality and abuse around migrants is more legal pathways for migration"*, says Guterres.



**What are the legal pathways for migration?
How can we help facilitate this process? What
part do we play?**



Sofia Dawoudi, visual artist and filmmaker,
founder Annamarie-ArtS, creator
'Meet the Syrians'



admission €5
students/staff €3



Filmhuis Lumen
Doelenplein 5 Delft

Thanks

This sixth instalment of **Let's Talk About Water** is organized by Linda Lilienfeld and Jérôme van Dam in cooperation with **IHE Delft, TU-Delft, Deltares** and **WWF the Netherlands**. For their help, patience and great commitment we thank Ewoud Kok and Ruth Webber (IHE Delft), Roeli Suiker and Bert Jagers (Deltares), Prof. Nick van de Giesen (TU-Delft), Asst. Prof. Taneha Bacchin and Assoc. Prof. Inge Bobbink (TU Delft Architecture) and Bart Geenen (WWF the Netherlands). For their kind support:

Rick Hooper, former Executive Director of **CUAHSI**, Rob van Nieuwkerk and Stichting **Cinema Loves Science**: Anneke van den Berg, Frank Bazelmans and Margaret Parsons of the National Gallery of Art/Film program, Washington DC. And to the students at **IHE Delft**, volunteers of **Filmhuis Lumen** and Felix van het **Falke Begijnhof Theater** and Marion Vredeling (TU Delft Library), and the supporting staff at TU-Delft, IHE Delft, for their assistance and hospitality.

A film and picture researcher for 40 years, specializing in science and history, Linda Lilienfeld (founder and director of Let's Talk About Water) believes in the power of an image to tell a story and move people. It can electrify our conversation and help us understand our world in new ways. Because with climate change and human activity affecting the world, the lives of many people are at risk. Water knits it all together. More at WWW.LETSTALKABOUTWATER.COM

The films and guest speakers will give you information and tools that we hope will empower you to contribute, in your own way, with the important water-related topics that affect so many lives.

www.LetsTalkAboutWater.nl



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



Water knits it all together.

Dr. Richard Hooper, Emeritus Executive Director of CUAHSI

www.SustainableDevelopment.un.org